McDermott Smith (TX) Porter McGovern Price (GA) Smith (WA) Snyder McHenry Price (NC) McHugh Prvce (OH) Solis McIntyre Putnam Souder Radanovich McKeon Space McMorris Rahall Spratt Ramstad Rodgers Stark McNernev Rangel Stearns McNulty Regula Stupak Meehan Sullivan Rehberg Meek (FL) Reichert Sutton Meeks (NY) Tancredo Renzi Melancon Reyes Tanner Mica. Reynolds Tauscher Michaud Rodriguez Taylor Millender-Rogers (AL) Terry McDonald Rogers (KY) Thompson (CA) Miller (MI) Rogers (MI) Thompson (MS) Miller (NC) Rohrabacher Thornberry Miller, Garv Ros-Lehtinen Tia.hrt. Miller, George Tiberi Roskam Mitchell Tierney Ross Rothman Mollohan Towns Moore (KS) Roybal-Allard Turner Moore (WI) Royce Udall (CO) Ruppersberger Moran (KS) Udall (NM) Moran (VA) Rush Upton Ryan (OH) Van Hollen Murphy (CT) Murphy, Patrick Murphy, Tim Rvan (WI) Velázquez Salazar Visclosky Murtha Sali Walberg Walden (OR) Sánchez, Linda Musgrave Myrick Walsh (NY) Sanchez, Loretta Nadler Walz (MN) Napolitano Sarbanes Wamp Wasserman Neal (MA) Saxton Neugebauer Schakowsky Schultz Schiff Waters Nunes Oberstar Schwartz Watson Obey Scott (GA) Watt Olver Scott (VA) Waxman Sensenbrenner Weiner Welch (VT) Serrano Westmoreland Pascrell Sessions Pastor Wexler Whitfield Sestak Pavne Shadegg Wicker Wilson (NM) Shays Pearce Pence Shea-Porter Perlmutter Sherman Wilson (OH) Peterson (MN) Shimkus Wilson (SC) Shuler Peterson (PA) Wolf Woolsey Petri Shuster Pickering Simpson Wu Pitts Sires Slaughter Wynn Platts Yarmuth Poe Smith (NE) Young (AK) Pomeroy Smith (NJ) Young (FL)

### NAYS-1

Paul

## NOT VOTING—13

Baca	Davis (KY)	Skelton
Baldwin	Davis, Jo Ann	Weldon (FL)
Brown (SC)	Kilpatrick	Weller
Cubin	Miller (FL)	
Culberson	Schmidt	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during

the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

## □ 1448

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to official leave of absence, I was unable to vote on three bills considered today under suspension of the rules. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of H. Res. 64. Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Bangladesh should immediately drop all pending

charges against Bangladeshi journalist Salah Uddin Shoaib Choudhury; "yea" on final passage of H. Res. 228, Recognizing the 186th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy, and "yea" on final passage of H. Res 222, Expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the Good Friday Agreement, signed on April 10, 1998, as a blueprint for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, and for other purposes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that I be excused from today's votes due to official business at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. I regret that I was not able to cast these votes; however, if I had been present I would have voted in the following way: "yea" on H. Res. 64; "yea" on H. Res. 222.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 139 on final passage of H. Res. 64, rollcall No. 140 on final passage of H. Res. 228, and rollcall No. 141 on final passage of H. Res. 222, I am not recorded because I was absent due to attendance at a family funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each of the rollcall votes.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Melody McEntee, Director, Government, Business and Community Relations, Office of Hon. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER, Member of Congress:

House of Representatives, Washington, DC, March 12, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker, House of Representatives,

 $Washington,\,DC.$ 

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with an administrative subpoena, issued by the United States Merit Systems Protection Board, for testimony and documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House. Sincerely,

MELODY MCENTEE,
Director, Government, Business
and Community Relations.

# SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONGRESSIONAL CONSTITUTION CAUCUS' WEEKLY "CONSTITUTION HALF HOUR"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to announce our support of the A-PLUS Act authored by my good friend from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA). I stand here as the founder and chairman of the Congressional Constitution Caucus, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

Normally, when I begin my weekly floor speeches, I quote the relevant portion of the Constitution that corresponds with the evening's topic. Yet today I have difficulty choosing a coinciding article and section from our founding document. You see, the Constitution does not contain the word "school" or even "education." Contrary to common modern misconceptions, there is no constitutional right guaranteeing each citizen an education.

Now, this does not mean education is unimportant or that the Constitution is silent on the issue. The 10th amendment unambiguously states, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

Historically, in the United States, education has not fallen under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. Parents, local schools and the States were responsible for children's academic training. It has only been in the last 50 years or so has the Federal Government begun overstepping its constitutional boundaries by parading the increasing bureaucracies of the Department of Education.

Mr. HOEKSTRA's bill seeks to correct many of the problems associated with a Federal bureaucracy by putting control over education money back into the hands of the taxpayers and, most importantly, the parents.

Under the current system, the Federal Government essentially bribes States into complying with the burdensome No Child Left Behind program. Yes, States can opt out of these regulations, but doing so would mean losing millions of dollars in aid every year.

Under its bill, first it will free States from following needless Federal regulations and mandates. Currently, the No Child Left Behind program restricts academic innovation and ignores the diversity present in each State, region and school district.

Secondly, A-PLUS Act will reduce the amount of time and money that school officials currently devote to complying with these mandates. Each